Amendment to the Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A method of processing commercial
transactions through an Internet website, comprising:

    providing a supplier database, the supplier database
including a plurality of suppliers and describing a type of
product distributed by each supplier and a service performed by
each supplier;

    ~~submitting~~ receiving a request for goods or services through
an Internet website, the request for goods or services including
line items, each line item consisting of a manufacturer, part
number, description, quantity, delivery date, geographical area
preference and predefined grouping preference, the predefined
grouping preference consisting of a type of supplier, preferred
status, and association membership status;

    inspecting the request for goods or services to determine
types of goods and types of services included in the request for
goods or services;

    selecting potential suppliers from the supplier database for
each of the types of goods and the types of services included in
the request for goods or services in accordance with the
geographical area preference and predefined grouping preference;

    transmitting the request for goods or services to ~~the~~ each
of the potential suppliers;

    receiving ~~communicating~~ a return quote from ~~the~~ each of the
potential suppliers in response to the request, each return quote
including a price, availability, delivery instructions, warranty
information, insurance information, handling charges, expiration
date, internal reference number, tax exempt status, payment
terms, comments, and special instructions; and

    transmitting the return quotes through the Internet website
to an originator of the request.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the request is
transmitted to the suppliers through electronic mail.

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the return quote
is transmitted to the originator through electronic mail.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further including the
step of selecting at least one of the suppliers to supply the
goods or services.

9.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the commercial
transactions are maintained on the Internet website.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein the commercial
transactions are available for searching and reporting.

11.   (Currently amended)   A method of processing commercial
transactions acquiring goods or services through an Internet
website, comprising:
    providing a supplier database, the supplier database
including a plurality of suppliers and describing a type of
product distributed by each supplier or a service performed by
each supplier;

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~~submitting~~ receiving a request for goods or services through an Internet website ~~directed to a group of suppliers~~, the request for goods or services including a part number, quantity, delivery date and a geographical area preference or a predefined grouping preference, the predefined grouping preference including a type of supplier, preferred status, or association membership status; submitting the request for goods or services to a group of suppliers selected from the supplier database in accordance with the geographical area preference and predefined grouping preference; receiving a return quote in response to the request; and transmitting the return quote through the Internet website to an originator of the request ~~selecting at least one of the suppliers from which to acquire the goods or services~~.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the Internet website maintains a listing of suppliers.

13-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the request is transmitted to the group of suppliers through electronic mail.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the return quote is transmitted to an originator of the request through electronic mail.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, further including the step of maintaining commercial transactions on the Internet website for searching and reporting.

18.   (Currently amended) A method of supplying goods or
services through an Internet website, comprising:

    providing a supplier database;

    receiving a request for goods or services through an
Internet website ~~directed to a group of suppliers~~;

    selecting potential suppliers from the supplier database for
each of the goods or services included in the request for goods
or services;

    transmitting the request for goods or services to ~~the~~ each
of the potential suppliers; and

    communicating a return quote in response to the request for
goods or services to an originator of the request~~, and~~

    ~~being selected as a supplier to supply the goods or
services~~.

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the request is
transmitted to the group of suppliers by electronic mail.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the return
quote is transmitted to an originator of the request by
electronic mail.

22.   (Original) The method of claim 18, further including the
step of maintaining commercial transactions on the Internet
website for searching and reporting.

23.   (Currently amended) A method of supporting transactions

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for goods or services through an Internet website, comprising:

    providing a supplier database;

    receiving a request for goods or services through an Internet website;

    selecting a group of suppliers from the supplier database, the group of suppliers being capable of supplying a good or providing a service included in the request;

    communicating the request to a~the group of suppliers; and

    providing for selection of at least one of the group of suppliers to supply the goods or services.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further including the step of communicating a return quote from at least one of the group of suppliers to an originator of the request.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein an originator of the request designates a geographic area to select the group of suppliers from the listing of suppliers.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the request is transmitted to the group of suppliers by electronic mail.

29. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the return quote is transmitted to an originator of the request by electronic mail.

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30. (Original) The method of claim 23, further including the step of maintaining commercial transactions on the Internet website for searching and reporting.

31. (Currently amended) A system of supporting transactions for goods or services through an Internet website, comprising:

   means for providing a supplier database;

   means for receiving a request for goods or services through an Internet website;

   means for selecting a group of suppliers from the supplier database, the group of suppliers being capable of supplying a good or providing a service included in the request;

   means for communicating the request to a the group of suppliers; and

   means for providing for selection of at least one of the group of suppliers to supply the goods or services.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, further including means for communicating a return quote to an originator of the request.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, further including means for designating a geographic area from which to select the group of suppliers.

34. (Original) The system of claim 31, further including means for communicating the request to the group of suppliers through electronic mail.

35. (Original) The system of claim 31, further including means for communicating the return quote to an originator of the

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request through electronic mail.

36.   (Original)   The system of claim 31, further including means
for maintaining commercial transactions on the Internet website
for searching and reporting.